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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Disclosed herein is a diode-pumped solid state (DPSS) laser having a laser rod and a diode array, located proximate the laser rod. In one embodiment, the diode array includes a plurality of high power diode bars spaced along the diode array, where each is configured to emit radiation therefrom. In addition, in this embodiment, the spacing of the high power diode bars and the location of the diode array with respect to the laser rod are selected to allow the laser rod to receive the radiation from the high power diode bars in a substantially uniform distribution. In addition, a method of manufacturing a DPSS laser, and a DPSS laser assembly are also disclosed.